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LETTER DATED 23 OCTOBER 1992 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I am transmitting to you herewith the text of a communiqué issued by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Mozambique on 20 October 1992, concerning the implementation of the General Peace Agreement for Mozambique.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Pedro Comissario AFONSO
Ambassador Extraordinary
and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative
to the United Nations

Annex

Communiqué by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Mozambique

The signing of the General Peace Agreement on 4 October 1992 in Rome by the President of the Republic of Mozambique, Joaquim Alberto Chissano, and by the leader of RENAMO, Afonso Macacho Marceta Dhlakama, has signified for all the Mozambican people and for the international community the end of the war, beginning with the immediate cessation of hostilities between the parties until the formal entry into effect of the cease-fire.

The Assembly of the Republic has unanimously approved the General Peace Agreement, incorporating it into the national law. The publication of the Agreement on 15 October 1992, in the Official Gazette ("Boletim da Republica"), marked the formal start of the cease-fire.

The General Peace Agreement, in its various Protocols, calls for the existence and operation of suitable mechanisms, agreed upon between the parties, concerning the supervision and monitoring of the implementation of the General Peace Agreement, under the chairmanship of the United Nations.

Both parties - the Government and RENAMO - agreed on 15 October 1992 as the date for the entry into effect of the cease-fire, with all the consequences arising therefrom.

In this context, the Secretary-General of the United Nations has appointed his Representative as Chairman of the Commission for Supervision and Monitoring of the General Peace Agreement, who arrived in Maputo on 15 October 1992, as well as the Head of the United Nations Military Observers Team, who arrived in Maputo on 14 October 1992, along with part of the first Team of Observers.

On 15 October 1992, the President of the Republic received in audience the Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. ALDO AJELLO, whom he advised of the steps that were being taken by the Government with a view to complying with the obligations arising from the General Peace Agreement.

The Secretary-General's Representative was then informed of:

- the composition of the representation of the Government in the various Commissions set forth in the General Peace Agreement;

- the measures taken and under way to facilitate accommodations for the RENAMO members designated to form part of the Commission;

- the measures taken and under way to secure accommodations for the United Nations Observers.

The Head of State asked the Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General to take immediate steps in order to ensure that the Commissions set forth in the General Peace Agreement begin to operate, in order to prevent delays already at the outset.

The Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General informed the Head of State of his availability to travel immediately to Gorongoza and persuade RENAMO's President to send his delegates.

Within the spirit of assuring compliance with the Agreement, the Government also asked RENAMO, through its representative in the COMIVE, to provide information about the date of arrival of its representatives, having been informed that the latter had not left, due to lack of means of transportation between Maringue and Maputo.

Having made arrangements to provide a small plane for the trip, from Maputo and Beira, and while awaiting communication as to the time when it should arrive in Maringue, the Government was informed that the RENAMO delegation was not coming, because RENAMO first wanted to know about the conditions for their accommodations.

Still within the same spirit, on 15 October 1992, the President of the Republic formally communicated to the RENAMO representative in the COMIVE (International Joint Verification Commission) the answers to the concerns expressed by the RENAMO leaders as to:

- housing
- security
- meals
- identification
- liaison with the media,

assuring that the conditions had been ensured and that the arrangements should follow through.

On 18 October 1992, the RENAMO representative in the COMIVE, in an interview given to the national and international media, released a statement by its organization which makes reference to an alleged movement of the Armed Forces of Mozambique towards zones supposedly under RENAMO's control, affirming that this was due to the lack of willingness on the part of the Government to abide by the Agreement, threatening with retaliation.

It is in this context that on 17 October 1992, armed RENAMO elements attacked, assaulted, and occupied the capital of the district of Maganja de Costa; on 18 and 19 October 1992, they attacked, assaulted and occupied the capital of the district of Angoche, and on 19 October 1992, they

attacked, assaulted and occupied the capital of the district (capital) of Memba, at the same time that concentrations of troops are occurring in various parts of the country, with objectives that are not very clear.

Thus, and taking into account: that the Government has done everything in its power to ensure compliance with the General Peace Agreement, keeping the Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General informed, that the Government has regarded very positively the logistical support that the Armed Forces of Mozambique have been supplying to the RENAMO people when they request it peacefully; that the Government has been encouraging a spirit of reconciliation between the members of the Armed Forces of Mozambique and those of RENAMO.

The Government considers that RENAMO's behaviour, namely:

- Not having itself been represented in the commission set forth in the General Peace Agreement with the task of supervising and monitoring its implementation,

- Launching offensives against civilian targets, in a deliberate strategy of conquest of territories and strategic positions,

- Issuing statements instead of using the agreed-on mechanism as an advance justification for the violations that it set out to commit,

constitutes a grave and systematic violation that seriously jeopardizes the General Peace Agreement.

The actions and attitudes of each party leave no margin for questions about who is willing to comply and will comply and who is determined to violate the General Peace Agreement and, in particular, the cease-fire.

Thus, to the proclaimed and so-welcomed reconciliation of brothers, there are those who wish to oppose or superimpose and perpetuate the rationale and methods of an enemy in open defiance to the Mozambican people and the international community.

The Government has already notified the Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General that RENAMO be ordered to comply with the General Peace Agreement and to conduct its activities in accordance with the parameters set forth therein.

The Government appeals to all Mozambicans so that they may know how to defend the General Peace Agreement, exercising the necessary vigilance against all those who, driven by ambition and by an anti-patriotic and warlike spirit, do everything to jeopardize it. In view of the gravity of the situation, the Government assumes the responsibilities that befall it in the defence and security of the peoples and reserves the right to take the measures it deems suitable to put an end to the violations that have taken place and to restore the conditions for the compliance with and implementation of the General Peace Agreement.

Under the present circumstances, the Armed Forces of Mozambique must continue under a state of alert and readiness in order to drive back any move or attempt to violate the General Peace Agreement.

For Peace, Democracy, Development and National Solidarity.

Maputo, 20 October 1992